

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Intelligence Information Cable

ROUTINE

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30 JUL 22

CITE

DIST 30 JULY 1968

COUNTRY: PORTUGUESE GUINEA/France/PORTUGAL/SENEGAL

MIOE

SUBJECT: SITUATION OF PORTUGUESE GUINEA INDEPENDENCE

PARTY LEADER AMILCAR CABRAL

291-844-2

1. IN LATE JULY 1968, AMILCAR CABRAL, LEADER OF THE AFRICAN PARTY FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF GUINEA AND CAPE VERDE (PARTI AFRICAIN POUR L'INDEPENDENCE DE LA GUINEE ET DU CAP VERT - PAIGC) SAID THAT MANY OF THE ARMS BEING USED AGAINST THE PAIGC FORCES IN PORTUGUESE GUINEA WERE SUPPLIED TO PORTUGAL BY FRANCE, RATHER THAN BY THE UNITED STATES, AS IS COMMONLY SUPPOSED. CABRAL NOTED THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO CRITICIZE FRANCE PUBLICLY, HOWEVER, FOR FEAR THAT FRANCE

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SOULD THEN RETALIATE BY INFLUENCING SENEGAL TO WITHHOLD AID FROM THE PAIGC.

2. CABRAL SAID HE WAS CERTAIN THAT HE WAS BEING OPPOSED BY FRANCE, AND CITED AN INSTANCE IN WHICH HE WAS REFUSED ENTRY INTO FRANCE AT A PARIS AIRPORT, DESPITE THE FACT THAT HE WAS CARRYING A MOROCCAN DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT. CABRAL SAID THAT AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THIS FRENCH PERSECUTION, HE HAD ASKED THE MORE IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF THE PAIGC TO KEEP OUT OF FRANCE.

3. IN DISCUSSING THE ECONOMIC FUTURE OF PORTUGUESE GUINEA, CABRAL SAID THAT AMERICAN OIL COMPANIES HAD STARTED TO INVEST IN PORTUGUESE GUINEA BEFORE THE START OF THE REVOLUTION. NOTING THAT THE AMERICANS HAD SHOWN AN INTEREST IN TALKING WITH THE PAIGC, CABRAL SAID THAT IT WOULD BE BAD POLITICS TO TALK OF NATIONALIZATION AT THIS STAGE OF THE REVOLUTION. CABRAL ADDED THAT THE GUINEAN FOREIGN INVESTMENT POLICY, WHICH ALLOWED FOR ACTIVE GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION, WAS BEING STUDIED WITH GREAT INTEREST BY THE PAIGC.

4. [REDACTED]

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